AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIM

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-18. CANCELLED

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of treating periodontal disease comprising administering an effective amount of a composition comprising a cetylated fatty acid and a carrier or an excipient to a subject in need of such treatment,

wherein the cetylated fatty acid is selected from the group consisting of cetylated decanoic acid, cetylated lauric acid, cetylated myristic acid, cetylated palmitoleic acid, cetylated oleic acid, and cetylated stearic acid, and

wherein the carrier or excipients is selected from the group consisting of lecithin, olive oil, and tocophenol.

20. CANCELLED

21. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 19, wherein the subject is a mammal.

22. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 21, wherein the mammal is human.

23. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 21, wherein the mammal is canine or feline.

24. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition is administered via topical application.

25. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 24, wherein the amount of the composition administered is about 1 to 15 mg/kg of body weight of said subject per day.

26. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 24, wherein the amount of the composition administered is about 3 to 10 mg/kg of body weight of said subject per day.

27. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 24, wherein the amount of the composition administered is about 5 to 8 mg/kg of body weight of said subject per day.

28. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition is administered orally.

29. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 28, wherein the amount of the composition administered is about 5 to 32 mg/kg of body weight of said subject per day.

30. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 28, wherein the amount of the composition administered is about 10 to 30 mg/kg of body weight of said subject per day.

31. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 28, wherein the amount of the composition administered is about 15 to 25 mg/kg of body weight of said subject per day.

32. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 28, wherein the composition is administered via a soft gel.

33. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition is administered once a day.

34. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition is administered twice a day.

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition is administered to a subject in combination with another compound or therapy effective to treat periodontal disease.

36. CANCELLED

37. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the carrier or excipient is olive oil.

38. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the cetylated fatty acid is cetylated myristic acid.

40. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition comprises from about 1% to about 10% of a lecithin fatty acid.

41. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition comprises from about 15% to about 25% olive oil.

42. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition comprises from about 70% to about 80% of an esterified fatty acid.

43. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition comprises about 1% to about 5% of a tocophenol.

44. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition comprises from about 1% to about 10% of a lecithin fatty acid, from about 15% to about 25% olive oil fatty acid, from about 70% to about 80% of a cetylated fatty acid, and from about 1% to about 5% of a tocophenol.

45. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition comprises about 74% cetylated fatty acid.

45. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition comprises about 5% lecithin.

46. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition comprises about 20% olive oil.

47. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition comprises about 1% tocophenols.

48. (NEW) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition comprises about 5% lecithin, about 20% olive oil, 74% cetylated fatty acid, and about 1% tocophenols.